

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

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APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
S/NM:MFALCO
S/S: MR. TARNOFF

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P 061711Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 185655

TO ALL CHIEFS OF MISSIONS FROM THE ACTING SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OF AUGUST 2 ON DRUG ABUSE

1. I WOULD LIKE TO DIRECT YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS OF AUGUST 2 ON DRUG ABUSE. THE PRESIDENT STRONGLY EMPHASIZED HIS PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO REDUCING THE EXTRAORDINARY SOCIAL COSTS OF DRUG ABUSE AND CALLED UPON HIS STAFF AND ENTIRE CABINET TO WORK TOWARD THIS GOAL. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR A GLOBAL STRATEGY ADDRESSING THE WORLDWIDE NATURE OF DRUG TRAFFICKING NETWORKS AND TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS, AND DIRECTED THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO GIVE GREATER EMPHASIS TO THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM.
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2. THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL NARCOTICS COORDINATORS AND, AT YOUR DISCRETION, TO APPROPRIATE CONTACTS IN THE HOST GOVERNMENT.

QUOTE: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

FOR CERTAIN DRUGS ORIGINALLY DERIVED FROM PLANT SOURCES OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES, ESPECIALLY HEROIN AND COCAINE, DIPLOMATIC AGREEMENTS AGAINST CULTIVATION AND TRAFFICKING

ARE INDISPENSABLE....WE MUST WORK CLOSELY WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ERADICATE THE CULTIVATION OF DRUGS, AND TO DEVELOP LEGITIMATE ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF INCOME FOR THE IMPOVERISHED FARMERS WHO HAVE FOR GENERATIONS RAISED AND SOLD CROPS SUCH AS OPIUM.

WE HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS. IN FEBRUARY, I DISCUSSED WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ-PORTILLO OF MEXICO MY DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE ILLEGAL CULTIVATION OF OPIUM IN HIS COUNTRY. UNDER HIS STRONG LEADERSHIP, THE ERADICATION PROGRAM HAS BEEN INTENSIFIED AND IS PRODUCING DRAMATIC RESULTS, SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING THE AVAILABILITY OF HEROIN IN MANY AMERICAN CITIES. IN ADDITION, PRESIDENT NE WIN OF BURMA AND PRIME MINISTER THANIN OF THAILAND HAVE RECEIVED STRONG ASSURANCES FROM PRESIDENT LOPEZ-MICHELSSEN OF COLOMBIA THAT HE PLANS TO GIVE THE PROBLEM OF DRUG TRAFFICKING HIS HIGHEST PRIORITY. WE ARE ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION MADE UP OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO COORDINATE A STEPPED UP EFFORT TO DEAL WITH THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING OF COCAINE AND MARIHUANA BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND THE DEVASTATING ECONOMIC

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NOMIC IMPACT OF THAT TRAFFIC. END QUOTE.

A. STATE DEPARTMENT ROLE: QUOTE: I AM DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO GIVE GREATER EMPHASIS TO THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM AND TO REITERATE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS OUR STRONG DESIRE TO CURTAIL PRODUCTION OF, AND TRAFFIC IN, ILLICIT DRUGS...I AM DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO INCLUDE SUCH MEASURES AS CROP AND INCOME SUBSTITUTION IN ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FOR THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE DRUGS ARE GROWN ILLICITLY. I EXPECT THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO CONTINUE TO CALL ON OTHER AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS, SUCH AS THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, TO ASSIST IN THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM ACCORDING TO THE SPECIAL EXPERTISE OF EACH. END QUOTE.

B. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY: QUOTE: I AM DIRECTING THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY TO EMPHASIZE THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

OF INFORMATION RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING. END QUOTE.

C. UN EFFORTS. QUOTE: I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (UNFDAC), THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION,

AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WORKING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP DRUG-PRODUCING COUNTRIES FIND ALTERNATE CROPS, IMPROVE DRUG CONTROL MEASURES, AND MAKE TREATMENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE. END QUOTE.

D. INT'L FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. QTE: I AM INSTRUCTING THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LOAN COMMITTEES OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO USE THEIR VOTES AND INFLUENCE TO ENCOURAGE WELL DESIGNED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND INCOME SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS IN COUNTRIES WHICH NOW PRODUCE DANGEROUS DRUGS, AND TO ENSURE THAT ASSISTANCE IS NOT USED TO FOSTER THE GROWTH OF CROPS LIKE OPIUM AND COCA. END QUOTE.

E. PSYCHOTROPIC CONVENTION: IN VIEW OF THE NEED TO IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL CONTROLS OVER DANGEROUS DRUGS WHICH HAVE LEGITIMATE MEDICAL USES, LIKE BARBITURATES AND AMPHETAMINES. THE PRESIDENT URGED THE CONGRESS TO ADOPT LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTING THE CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, AND URGED THE SENATE TO RATIFY THIS TREATY PROMPTLY.

3. THE PRESIDENT STRESSED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AMONG DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND THE SHARING OF TREATMENT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE. HE NOTED THAT THIS KIND OF COOPERATION HAD ALREADY BEGUN IN BANGKOK AMONG FRENCH, GERMAN, BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN, AMERICAN AND THAI OFFICIALS. THE PRESIDENT ALSO SAID THE U.S. WOULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO SHARE OUR EXPERIENCE, ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE NATIONS WHICH HAVE SERIOUS DRUG PROBLEMS AND WHICH ARE WORKING WITH US IN THE EFFORT TO CONTROL DRUG SOURCES AND PREVENT DRUG ABUSE. OUR PROGRAM WILL ENCOMPASS TRAINING, RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS, INCLUDING PROVIDING AMERICAN EXPERTS AS CONSULTANTS.

4. LAW ENFORCEMENT: THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED STRONG MEASURES TO BOLSTER THE FEDERAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM, IN ORDER TO COUNTERACT THE APPEAL OF ENORMOUS PROFITS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING BY THE CERTAINTY OF SWIFT AND SEVERE PUNISHMENT. THESE MEASURES ARE DESIGNED TO INTENSIFY INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTION AGAINST ORGANIZED UNCLASSIFIED

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CRIME AND TO INCREASE OUR EFFORTS IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. THE PRESIDENT DIRECTED THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND TREASURY TO STUDY ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES CONSISTENT WITH CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES TO REVOKE THE

PASSPORTS OF KNOWN MAJOR TRAFFICKERS, AND TO FREEZE ASSETS ACCUMULATED IN THE ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC. THE PRESIDENT URGED CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD IMPROVE MANAGEMENT IN THE COURTS, TO EXPAND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PROSECUTORIAL PROGRAM, AND TO IMPROVE SEIZURE LEGISLATION. THE PRESIDENT ALSO DIRECTED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO STUDY THE NECESSITY AND CONSTITUTIONALITY OF PROPOSALS TO DENY RELEASE PRIOR TO TRIAL FOR CERTAIN MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENDERS, IN ORDER TO PREVENT THEM FROM USING THEIR IMMENSE WEALTH TO POST BAIL AND ESCAPE JUSTICE. THE PRESIDENT DIRECTED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REVIEW THE ADEQUACY OF THE PENALTY STRUCTURE, AND STATED THAT HE WILL CONSIDER REQUESTING THE AMENDMENT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE TAX REFORM ACT, IF THOSE PROVISIONS ARE FOUND TO IMPEDE UNNECESSARILY INVESTIGATIONS OF MAJOR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS, AND IF THEY CAN BE CHANGED WITHOUT INFRINGING ON THE PRIVACY OF CITIZENS.

5. MARIHUANA: THE PRESIDENT SUPPORTED CHANGING THE FEDERAL LAW REGARDING POSSESSION OF SMALL AMOUNTS OF MARIHUANA FOR PERSONAL USE TO ELIMINATE FEDERAL CRIMINAL PENALTIES. THIS WOULD LEAVE THE STATES FREE TO ADOPT WHATEVER LAWS THEY WISH CONCERNING THE MARIHUANA SMOKER. THE PRESIDENT UNDERLINED THAT TRAFFICKING IN MARIHUANA WOULD REMAIN A SERIOUS FEDERAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE AND CAUTIONED THAT, WHILE EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL DAMAGE FROM MARIHUANA USE IS LIMITED, CHRONIC INTOXICATION WITH ANY DRUG MAY CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL HARM, PARTICULARLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

6. DRUG TREATMENT: THE PRESIDENT DIRECTED THE FOLLOWING UNCLASSIFIED

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MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND BROADEN THE SCOPE OF FEDERAL DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

A. NON-OPIATE DRUG ABUSE: THE PRESIDENT DIRECTED THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE TO PLACE HIGH PRIORITY IN ITS TREATMENT PROGRAMS ON PROVIDING CARE FOR ABUSERS OF BARBITURATES, AMPHETAMINES, AND COMBINATIONS OF DRUGS, INCLUDING ALCOHOL.

B. REHABILITATION AND JOB TRAINING: THE PRESIDENT STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF ADEQUATE REHABILITATION AND JOB TRAINING SO THAT A FORMER DRUG ABUSER CAN REGAIN A PRODUCTIVE ROLE IN SOCIETY.

C. PREVENTION: THE PRESIDENT UNDERLINED THAT A SUSTAINED EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO IDENTIFY THE REASONS THAT PEOPLE TURN TO DRUGS, INCLUDING ALCOHOL AND CIGARETTES, AND TO RESPOND IN MORE CONSTRUCTIVE WAYS TO THE HUMAN PSYCHOLOGICAL NEEDS THEY SATISFY.

7. DRUG RESEARCH: THE PRESIDENT DIRECTED THE SECRETARY OF HEW TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF MAKING THE ADDICTION RESEARCH CENTER RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATED RESEARCH ON A VARIETY OF DRUGS, INCLUDING OPIATES ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO.

8. BARBITURATES: THE PRESIDENT DIRECTED THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION BE PAID TO PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE ABUSE OF SEDATIVE-HYPNOTICS, PARTICULARLY CERTAIN BARBITURATES WHICH ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY DEATHS EACH YEAR IN THIS COUNTRY. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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